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Data 400: Data Analytics Capstone

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Project Proposal: Have music genres risen and fallen in popularity over time?

The objective of this project is to determine whether certain music genres show measurable growth or decline over time by analyzing yearly release data. This analysis will provide insights into long-term cultural dynamics, help industry stakeholders recognize emerging trends, and give researchers a transparent way to track the lifecycle of genres.

I plan to scrape the "Music Genres Explore" section from Chosic.com for multiple genres (e.g., Pop, Rock, Hip-Hop, Electronic, Jazz, Metal). These pages provide information on songs, artists, and yearly release counts, which will allow me to build a dataset of releases by genre and year. This dataset will span several decades, making it possible to compare genre trajectories across time. I believe this data is accessible and manageable for a mini project.

A simple regression and trend analysis will be applied to identify whether each genre is gaining or losing momentum. The dependent variable will be the number of releases per genre per year, while the independent variables will include year and genre. For example, the slope of releases over time can reveal upward or downward trends, while the peak year of releases can indicate when a genre had its strongest presence.

Finally, ethical and social considerations include respecting the website's data access policies and being careful not to overstate conclusions. This project connects music data to

cultural questions about artistic movements and popularity. Rather than simply listing genres, it examines when and how strongly genres peak and whether they sustain and fade.